CLAIMS

1. A system for transmitting data in a data stream to grouped recipients, comprising:

a server, for receiving users' requests for transmission of said data to said users;

said server, responsive to said users' requests, arranging said users in groups

with each said user being arranged in a respective group; and

said server, responsive to the arrangement of said users in said groups, for transmitting said data in a data stream to said respective groups.

- 2. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said server realigns a respective user with said data stream to change the relative position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said data stream, responsive to a signal from said respective user.
- 3. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said server arranges said users into said groups arranged by the size of said group.
- 4. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said server arranges said users into said groups arranged by a time interval for assembling said group.
- 5. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said server is limited to a maximum number of said groups and arranges said groups in relation to said maximum number.
- 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said telecommunications medium is the Internet.

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- 7. The system of Claim 1, wherein, said user's requests are received from a world wide web browser.
- 8. The system of Claim 1, wherein,

said data is transmitted with identifiable locations in said data stream;

said server identifying a respective identifiable location in said data steam corresponding to said request; and

said server, moving said respective user to another of said groups receiving said data stream from another location in said data stream related to said respective identifiable location.

- 9. The system of Claim 8 wherein, said related location is advanced in time of transmission of said data stream relative to said respective identifiable location.
- 10. The system of Claim 8, wherein, said related location is delayed in time of transmission of said data stream, relative to said respective identifiable location.

11. The system of Claim 8, wherein,

said server has a plurality of ports and with each said group connected to a respective port for receiving said data stream from separate respective locations in said data stream through a respective port; and

said server, moving said user to a said separate respective location in said data stream by reconnecting said user to another of said respective ports.

12. The system of Claim 1, wherein,

said server has a plurality of respective ports;

said server is connected to users and said groups through separate respective ports; and

said server realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the data stream location said user is receiving said data or to change the time in the transmission of said data stream said user is receiving said transmission, by reconnecting said user to another of said respective ports.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein,

said respective ports have a plurality of respective sockets and said users are connected to respective sockets;

said server has a plurality of pointers into separate respective locations in said data store associated with respective sockets, for sending data from said separate respective locations in said data store to said respective sockets and to said respective users associated with said respective sockets; and

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said server realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the location in said data stream said user is receiving said data or the time in the transmission in said data stream, said user is receiving said data, by reconnecting said respective user to another respective socket connected to another respective pointer.

14. The system of Claim 12, wherein

said ports have a plurality of respective sockets and said respective users are connected to respective sockets;

said server has a plurality of pointers, into separate respective locations in said data store, connected with respective sockets, for sending data from said separate respective locations in said data store to said respective sockets and said respective users connected to said respective sockets; and

said server realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the location in said data stream said user is receiving said data or the time in the transmission in said data stream, said user is receiving said data, by moving said pointer for a respective socket to another location in said data store.

- 15. The system of Claim 1, wherein the position of said user relative to said data in said data stream is changed in relation to the location of the data being transmitted in said data stream.
- 16. The system of Claim 1, wherein said position of said user relative said data in said data stream is changed in relation to the time of transmission of said data.

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17. The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

means for signaling connected to said users for sending discrete respective signals to said server;

said server, responsive to said discrete respective signals, realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the relative position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said data stream; and

wherein, said realignment is in discrete steps relative to position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said data stream.

- 18. The system of Claim 17, wherein said discrete respective signals include signals for advancing or retarding said realignment of said respective position of said respective user.
- 19. The system of Claim 17, wherein, said discrete respective signals include signals for realignment in discrete intervals.
- 20. The system of Claim 19, wherein said discrete intervals are intervals of time displacement.
- 21. The system of Claim 19, wherein said discrete intervals are intervals of space displacement in the location of said data in said data stream.

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A system of Claim 1, wherein,

said server includes means for disconnecting a respective user with said data stream at an identifiable location in said data stream and for reconnecting said user to another data stream.

23. The system of Claim 22, wherein,

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said server includes means for disconnecting said respective user with said another data stream after a discrete interval and reconnecting said user with said data stream at said identifiable location.

24. The system of Claim 23, wherein,

said server means for reconnecting said user with said data stream is a pointer for accessing data in said data store at discrete locations.

25. In a system for transmitting data in a data stream sent from a server to a plurality of users requesting access to said data stream at substantially the same time, and responsive to users' requests for data, arranging said users into groups by time or number of requests, for transmission of the same data in said data stream to the respective users in respective groups, and distributing the user load on said server and shifting said user load toward a steady state load by distributing said groups over said data transmission by time of said data transmission or place in said data transmission, comprising:

a server;

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said server including means for responding to requests received from said delecommunications network for data, for identifying the individual requesters as the source of respective requests and arranging said individual requesters in respective groups for receiving said data in a data stream.

- 26. The system of Claim 25, wherein, said groups are arranged by number of said individual requesters.
- 27. The system of Claim 25, wherein, said groups are arranged by the time of said requests.
- 28. The system of Claim 25, wherein said server is limited to a maximum number of said groups and data processor arranges said groups in relation to said maximum number.
- 29. The system of Claim 25, wherein said telecommunications medium is the Internet.
- 30. The system of Claim 25, wherein said user's requests are received from a world wide web browser.

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31. The system of Claim 25, wherein said server includes means for shifting said respective individual requesters between said groups to change the time of reception of said data relative to said data transmission.

32. The system of Claim 25, wherein,

said data is accessed from a data store; and

said server includes means for changing the location in the data store accessed for shifting the location of the data relative to said data transmission.

33. A method for transmitting data to users requesting said data, arranged in groups to receive said data, comprising the steps of:

connecting a server having a data store, and an interface for connection to said server for sending data from said data store through said telecommunications medium;

responsive to requests, arranging said users in groups with each said user being arranged in a respective group; and

sending said data stream from said data store, as streaming data to said respective groups.

- 34. The method of claim system of claim 33, wherein said step of arranging includes the step of arranging said groups in relation to a maximum number of said groups said server can send said data.
- 35. The method of Claim 33, including the step of sending said data through the Internet.

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- 36. The method of Claim 33, including the step of receiving said user's requests from a world wide web browser.
- 37. The method of Claim 33, wherein, said step of arranging includes the step of realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the relative position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said data stream, responsive to a signal from said respective user.
- 38. The method of claim 33, wherein, said step of arranging, arranges said users into said groups arranged by the size of said group.
- 39. The method of claim 33, wherein, said step of arranging, arranges said users into said groups arranged by a time interval for assembling said group.
- 40. The method of claim \$3, wherein, said data is transmitted with identifiable locations in said data stream, and the method further comprising the steps of:

identifying a respective identifiable location in said data steam corresponding to said user signal; and

moving said user to another of said groups receiving said data stream from a location in said data stream related to said respective identifiable location.

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41. In a system for transmitting data in a data stream sent from a server to a plurality of users requesting access to said data stream at substantially the same time, a method for arranging said users into groups by time or number of requests, for transmission of the data in said data stream to the respective users in respective groups, and distributing the user load on said server and shifting said user load toward a steady state load by distributing said groups over said data transmission by time of said data transmission or place in said data transmission, comprising the steps of,

arranging a server having a data processor to a telecommunications network for the transmission of data; and

responding to requests for data received through said telecommunications network, for identifying the individual requesters as the source of respective requests and arranging said individual requesters in respective groups for receiving said data.

42. The method of Claim 41, wherein,

said step of arranging includes the step of realigning a respective user with said data stream to change the relative position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said data stream, responsive to a signal from said respective user.

43. The method of claim 41, wherein,

said step of arranging includes the step of arranging said groups by number of said individual requesters.

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44. The method of Claim 41, wherein,

said step of arranging includes the step of arranging said groups by the time of said requests.

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45. A computer program product for use in the operation of a computer transmitting data in a data stream to users requesting said data, comprising,

means for connecting a telecommunications medium for sending said data to said users of said data;

means for arranging said users in groups with each said user being arranged in a respective group, responsive to a request made by said user; and means for sending said data stream from said data store, as streaming data to said respective groups.

46. In a system for transmitting data in a data stream sent from a server to a plurality of users requesting access to said data stream at substantially the same time, a computer program product for use in a method of operating a computer for arranging said users into groups by time or number of requests, for transmission of the data in a data stream to the respective users in respective groups, and distributing the user load by distributing said groups over said data transmission by time of said data transmission or place in said data transmission, comprising the steps of,

responding to requests for data received from requesting users, for identifying the individual requesters as the source of respective requests and arranging said individual requesters in respective groups for receiving said data; and

distributing said groups over said data transmission by time of said data transmission or place in said data transmission.

47. A computer program product for use in a method of operating a computer, comprising the steps of:

receiving requests for data from users requesting said data;

arranging said users in groups with each said user being arranged in a respective group; and

responsive to said users' requests, sending said data stream from said data store, as streaming data to said respective groups with said groups receiving separate respective portions of said data relatively displaced in space or time.